August 27, 2003

Craig G. Anderson, Vice President, Operations
Arkansas Nuclear One
Entergy Operations, Inc.
1448 S.R. 333
Russellville, Arkansas 72801-0967

SUBJECT: MIDCYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN - ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE

Dear Mr. Anderson:

On August 7, 2003, the NRC staff completed its midcycle plant performance assessment of Arkansas Nuclear One. The midcycle review for Arkansas Nuclear One involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the first half of the current assessment cycle, January 1 through June 30, 2003. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections that may conflict with your plant activities.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct only baseline inspections at your facility through September 30, 2004, based on your safety performance. However, the significance of three findings is still under review as part of the Significance Determination Process: (1) a fire protection program finding related to the use of manual actions to achieve safe shutdown; (2) a repeat reactor coolant system boundary leak; and (3) failure to establish an adequate means for notification of members of the populace in the emergency planning zone.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections scheduled through September 30, 2004. In addition to the baseline inspection at your facility, we also plan to conduct Temporary Instruction 2515/150, Revision 1, "Reactor Pressure Vessel Head and Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles (NRC Bulletin 2002-02)," on Unit 2 in coordination with your fall 2003 outage. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last 6 months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review meeting.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's “Rules of Practice,” a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public
Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC’s document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at 817/860-8137 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Linda Smith, Chief
Project Branch D
Division of Reactor Projects

Dockets: 50-313
50-368
Licenses: DPR-51
NPF-6

Enclosure:
Arkansas Nuclear One Inspection/Activity Plan

cc:
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The Honorable Edward Holt  
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Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-3867

Mike Schoppman
Framatome ANP, Inc.
Suite 705
1911 North Fort Myer Drive
Rosslyn, Virginia 22209
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This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities. This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.
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